

# The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

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## MTI/International Sponsorship - Guidance for Trusts

### Information about the scheme

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine is one of the Medical Royal Colleges taking part in the Medical Training Initiative (MTI). The MTI is a national scheme designed to allow a small number of doctors to enter the UK from overseas for a maximum of 24 months, for a training and development in NHS services before returning to their home countries.

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine's International Sponsorship Scheme provides successful applicants with sponsorship for full GMC registration with a license to practice, without taking the Professional and Linguistic Assessment Board (PLAB) test.

The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges are the National Scheme sponsor and is responsible for the issuance of Tier 5 certificates of sponsorship to be used for visa application.

Full information can be found here –

<http://www.aomrc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/MTI-Standards-Final-February-2018.pdf>

<http://www.aomrc.org.uk/medical-training-initiative/trusts/>

<http://www.aomrc.org.uk/medical-training-initiative/mti-frequently-asked-questions/>

There are two routes on to the scheme -

- IMGs that have already been offered a post
- IMGs that will be matched to a post by the College

### Prioritisation and allocation

The primary purpose of the Medical Training Initiative is to contribute to improving the quality of healthcare in developing countries. The main intention of the scheme is to provide doctors from developing countries with a period of training and development in the NHS before returning to their home countries where their patients and colleagues can benefit from the skills and experience they have obtained in the UK.

Due to the principles and intent of the scheme, the Department of Health, Health Education England and the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges have agreed changes to the arrangements for processing applications priority will be given to applications from those based in [DFID priority](#) or [Low Income](#) & [Lower Middle Income](#).

**Whilst applicants applying from countries that are not considered DfID priority or LI&LMI countries are not barred from making applications, they can have no guarantee or expectation of receiving a Certificate of visa Sponsorship (CoS) and are therefore applying at their own risk.**

If there is any remaining capacity at the end of each month once all priority applications have been processed, applications from non-priority countries will be awarded a CoS taken in order of the receipt of their applications or be placed on a waiting list. Applicants from these countries and employers will need to recognise that the waiting list may become quite long and reduce only slowly. Doctors based in these countries may be better off finding alternative routes for employment and immigration through Tier 2 entry.

[A full statement from Academy of Medical Royal Colleges on the changes to the MTI prioritisation process can be found here.](#)

## Key eligibility criteria

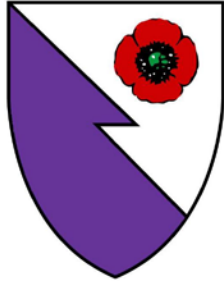
### Please consider these points when directly recruiting applicants

- **PLAB** – Applicants who have unsuccessfully taken any part of PLAB are **not** eligible.
- **IELTS** – Applicants must have achieved a **minimum of 7 in all areas and an overall score of 7.5 in the academic version** of the IELTS test, within the last **2 years**. [Full information here](#)  
Or  
**OET** – Applicants must have achieved a **grade of at least 'B' in each testing area in the medicine version of the test**, within the last 2 years. [Full information here](#)
- **Experience** – Applicants must –
  - Have been in continued medical practice for **all of the most recent 12 months** (the GMC do not accept observerships or clinical attachments towards this 12 months).
  - Have **at least 3 out of the last 5 years** of postgraduate training including an internship.
  - Be an EM Trainee (for at least 12 months), **or**, have completed a postgraduate EM training programme, **or**, have completed a postgraduate training programme in another related specialty and have at least one year experience in EM.
  - Be able to provide evidence of clinical competence (e.g. validated copied of training logs) and contact details of referees to complete reference forms.
- **Posts** – Placements can be from 6 – 24 months. After this time, the applicant must return to their home country – **the MTI is not a route to permanent UK employment.**  
Posts must be at least CT2 equivalent level and must be at sites that are approved for training.
- Candidates must undergo a successful interview with the Trust via Skype or Telephone **using the RCEM MTI Interview template.**
- **Home Country Sponsor** – Applicants must have a job to return to after they have completed their placement, they cannot stay in the UK permanently under the scheme.
- **Primary Medical Qualification** – Applicants must have a PMQ from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools (<http://www.wdoms.org/>)

### [Please direct applicants you may wish to recruit to the RCEM MTI webpage for further information](#)

### Points to consider for all applications

- **Approval** – If your Trust has not hosted EM MTI placements before, your department must first be approved by the EM Head of School/TPD for your region (please note that MTIs cannot be placed at sites not approved for training). Every individual application must also be approved by the Head of School/TPD as well as your Deanery/LETB (for confirmation that the post contains sufficient training and does not disadvantage training opportunities for UK trainees), even if you are replacing an MTI participant with a new MTI applicant in to the same post.
- **Funding** – Funding for the placement can come from the employing UK trust, foreign employer or UK/foreign government grants and scholarships. Sufficient funding must be available for the post. It is likely you will need to provide details on the source of this funding.
- **Timeframe** – The application process takes approximately 3-4 months from initial enquiry to the applicant starting their post – in some cases this can be longer. Please see the guidance from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges for those applying from countries not considered in the priority category under the scheme (<http://www.aomrc.org.uk/news-and-views/important-changes-medical-training-initiative-prioritisation-process/>)
- **Training** – Posts for MTI placements must be spare training capacity that is not required for planned UK/EEA Trainees. MTI doctors cannot be placed in service posts.
- **Study leave** – MTI doctors must be given the same consideration for study leave as UK trainees.



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- **Supervision** – An Educational Supervisor in the Trust must be assigned to the Participant to ensure that they are receiving appropriate training and development.
- **Paperwork** – There are a number of forms to be completed before sponsorship can be confirmed for the applicant. These will need to be completed by the UK Sponsoring Consultant, Medical Staffing/HR, Head of School/TPD and LETB/Deanery.
- **Sponsorship** – Sponsorship for GMC registration is only provided for those planning to train in the UK under the MTI scheme for up to 24 months. The college is unable to provide sponsorship for those that have been offered a post where the visa sponsorship will be provided by the employing Trust.

Please note: The College cannot provide sponsorship for GMC registration alone, sponsorship can only be provided for those coming to the UK for a short period of time via the MTI scheme.

## International Graduates with recognised postgraduate qualifications

Doctors who have obtained a postgraduate qualification within the past three years that is listed on the GMC's list of 'Acceptable Postgraduate Qualifications' (e.g. MRCEM or MRCS), may be able to apply for GMC registration via the 'Acceptable postgraduate qualifications' route. In these cases the employing Trust may be able to provide Tier 2 visa sponsorship via the shortage occupation list.

[www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration\\_applications/acceptable\\_postgraduate\\_qualifications.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/acceptable_postgraduate_qualifications.asp)

**Please contact the International Officer at the Royal College of Emergency Medicine for further information.**

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